(c) whether implementation of the revival scheme is awaiting clearance from the promoter i.e. Government of India;

(d) whether BIFR has given two months' time to Government to crystallise its views failing which the company would be sold; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the delay in taking the decision to revive this company and the time frame set by Government to commence the revival process?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The revival scheme of BSCL is under consideration of the Government for finalisation of its views on the revival plan. Since BSCL is multi-unit & multi-product company, thorough examination required for determing its viability was a time consuming process for the consultant. BIFR, however has given two months time for firming-up the Govt.'s views. BIFR will finally examine the revival plan after taking into account the views of all interested parties including the promotors.

Autonomy to PSUs

1716. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to impart more autonomy to PSUs and make them more accountable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Making PSUs more autonomous and more accountable is a continuous process for which need based steps are taken by the Government from time to time.

Survey to find out SCs/STs/OBCs and Minorities below Poverty Line

1717. **SHRI IQBAL SINGH**: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to find out the number of SCs, STs, Backward Classes and minorities in the country who are below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the Planning Commission, the State-wise data on the percentage of SCs living below the poverty line is available for 1977-78 and 1983-84, and given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). There are 29.05 million, i.e. 49.87% of the estimated population belonging to STs below the poverty line in 1987-88, but State-wise data is not available.

No such survey has been done in respect of the minorities and the Backward Classes.

Statement

Estimates of persons below Poverty Line (Annexture-I)

Percentage of SC Households to total (Rural & Urban) Households below Poverty Line during 1977-78 and 1983-84

S. No.	States/UTs	Scheduled Caste 1977-78	1983-84
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59.34	51.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—